

## VIRGIN ISLANDS

### ***Benthic Habitats of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands—2000, 2001***

<http://biogeo.nos.noaa.gov/products/benthic/>

This CD-ROM provides a benthic habitat classification manual, geospatial data, and a benthic habitat map for the nearshore waters of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The CD-ROM was created in partnership with the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science.

### **Buck Island, St. Croix, Methods Development and Benthic Data—1999**

[www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/bhm/buck\\_is.html](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/bhm/buck_is.html)

Through this project, benthic tropical ecosystem habitats around Buck Island were mapped. The Center integrated videography and single-beam acoustics into the project. The clear-water environment allowed a detailed examination of the acoustic properties of various coral, seagrass, and other tropical habitats.

### **Needs Assessment for Island Coastal Programs—2001**

The Center conducted a needs assessment of each island coastal program. The goal was to collect information about the position of the coastal management program, in terms of its technical and nontechnical resources, to meet its goals. The assessment initiated the development of appropriate and feasible projects between the Center and the island coastal programs.

### **Targeting Growth and Related Pollution Issues—2001 to 2003**

The Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources is researching smart growth initiatives, ideas, and practices to determine their usefulness in reducing nonpoint source pollution in the Virgin Islands.

### **Virgin Islands Hydroseeding Demonstration Project—1996, 1997**

Under a grant from the Center, the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources purchased equipment to allow contractors and private landowners to use hydroseeding to control runoff from construction areas. The project also included an outreach program to promote understanding of the effects that runoff has on coral reefs.